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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/036,185	12/28/2001	Michele Borgatti	32079-82	4873

7590 07/06/2004

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EXAMINER

THAI, XUAN MARIAN

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2111

DATE MAILED: 07/06/2004

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/036,185

Applicant(s)

BORGATTI ET AL.

Examiner

XUAN M. THAI

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM
THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 28 December 2001.
2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are rejected.
7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 28 December 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 2/22,9/03/02
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. This is in response to communication filed on December 28, 2001. Claims 1-11 are pending in the application.

Claim Objections

2. Claim 11 is objected to because of the following informalities: the recitation of “portable” host device (claim 11, line 2) is redundant and the second reference to “portable” should be deleted from the claim. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

4. Claims 1-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Kamepalli (USPN 6,647,434).

As per claims 1 and 7-10, Kamepalli discloses an electronic system, comprising: a portable host device (fig. 1; col. 1, lines 18-21) having a connector (connector 118; col. 3, lines 11-13); and an expansion module (e.g. multifunction device) adapted for quick-connect engagement in and disengagement from the portable device via the connector (118; col. 3, lines 11-13), comprising: a series of one or more peripheral devices adapted to serve different classes

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of functions (fig. 2, e.g. multifunction device 121 or other multifunction devices; col. 3, lines 41 et seq.); a non-volatile memory for storing information that pertains to configuring the different functions in the module (e.g. fig. 3, col. 3, lines 45 et seq. and col. 5, lines 22 et seq.); a re-configurable unit (computer system) adapted to establish connections, implement functional portions, and control the system components (e.g. col. 4, lines 32 et seq.); a control device (e.g. control logic 207) adapted, in cooperation with the host device, to control re-configuring operations within the system upon connection of the module with the host device (col. 4, lines 35 et seq.); and a software algorithm (e.g. BIOS routine or other routine) adapted to instruct the system to re-configure itself with respect to functionality (e.g. col. 4, lines 41 et seq. and col. 6, lines 10-41).

As per claim 2, Kamepalli discloses a method of reconfiguring the functionality of a portable electronic device, comprising: connecting an expansion module to the portable electronic device (e.g. col. 3, lines 11 et seq.); reading applications resident on the portable electronic device (col. 5, lines 5 et seq.); upon receiving a request to activate a new function to be provided by the portable electronic device (e.g. col. 6, lines 10-41), automatically reconfiguring the expansion module to provide the new function requested (e.g. col. 6, lines 10-41).

As per claim 3, “wherein the step of automatically reconfiguring comprises verifying that the request is consistent with the functions that are capable of being provided by the expansion module” is within the teachings of Kamepalli (see col. 3, line 65 – col. 4, line 19).

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As per claims 4 and 6, “wherein the step of automatically reconfiguring comprises selecting components within the expansion module to perform the new function requested, and deselecting components within the expansion module that are not needed to perform the function requested” is within the teachings of Kamepalli (see col. 4, lines 20-46).

As per claim 5, the method of claim 2, further comprising signaling completion of the reconfiguring (e.g. col. 5, line 65-col. 6, line 11).

As per claim 11, Kamepalli discloses an expansion module (multifunction device) adapted for quick-connect engagement in and disengagement from a portable electronic host device (fig. 1; col. 1, lines 18-21), comprising: a series of one or more peripheral devices adapted to serve different classes of functions (fig. 2, e.g. multifunction device 121 or other multifunction devices; col. 3, lines 41 et seq.); a non-volatile memory for storing information that pertains to configuring the different functions in the module (e.g. fig. 3, col. 3, lines 45 et seq. and col. 5, lines 22 et seq.); a re-configurable unit adapted to establish connections, implement functional portions, and control the components within the module (col. 4, lines 35 et seq.); a control device adapted, in cooperation with the host device, to control re-configuring operations upon connection of the module with the host device (col. 4, lines 35 et seq.); and a software algorithm adapted to instruct the host device and the module to re-configure itself with respect to functionality (e.g. col. 4, lines 41 et seq. and col. 6, lines 10-41).


Conclusion

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. See attached Form PTO-892.

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to XUAN M. THAI whose telephone number is 703-308-2064. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday from 8:30 A.M. to 5:00 P.M..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mark Rinehart can be reached on 703-305-4815. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


XUAN M. THAI
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2111

XMT